

We claim:

1. A wood composite bonded with an adhesive binder composition comprising a urea-formaldehyde resin modified with a protein, said protein provided in an amount of 0.1% to 10% by weight of resin solids.
2. The wood composite of claim 1 wherein the protein is a vegetable protein.
3. The wood composite of claim 2 wherein the vegetable protein is a soy protein.
4. The wood composite of claim 3 wherein the soy protein is a soy flour.
5. The wood composite of claim 4 made using a wood source selected from wood flakes, wood fibers, wood particles, wood wafers, wood strips, wood strands, and wood veneer.
6. The wood composite of claim 5 wherein the adhesive binder composition has a formaldehyde to urea mole ratio in the range of about 0.6:1 to about 1.6:1.
7. The wood composite of claim 6 wherein the protein was added during synthesis of the urea-formaldehyde resin to modify the resin.
8. The wood composite of claim 7 wherein said protein is provided in an amount of 0.2% to 7% by weight of resin solids.
9. The wood composite of claim 8 wherein the urea-formaldehyde resin is synthesized at a formaldehyde to urea mole ratio in the range of 1.5:1 to 3.2:1.

10. A process for making a wood composite comprising applying an adhesive binder composition to a source of wood material, the adhesive binder composition comprising a urea-formaldehyde resin modified with a protein, said protein provided in an amount of 0.1% to 10% by weight of resin solids, consolidating said wood material and curing said urea-formaldehyde resin.
11. The process of claim 10 wherein the protein is a vegetable protein.
12. The process of claim 11 wherein the vegetable protein is a soy protein.
13. The process of claim 12 wherein the soy protein is a soy flour.
14. The process of claim 13 wherein the wood source is selected from wood flakes, wood fibers, wood particles, wood wafers, wood strips, wood strands, and wood veneer.
15. The process of claim 14 wherein the adhesive binder composition has a formaldehyde to urea mole ratio in the range of about 0.6:1 to about 1.6:1.
16. The process of claim 15 wherein the protein was added during synthesis of the urea-formaldehyde resin to modify the resin.
17. The process of claim 16 wherein said protein is provided in an amount of 0.2% to 7% by weight of resin solids.
18. The process of claim 17 wherein the urea-formaldehyde resin is synthesized at a formaldehyde to urea mole ratio in the range of 1.5:1 to 3.2:1.